

tion, wherever they are found, as no less mysterious, wonderful, or beautiful than other facts of life. If children gradually acquire this mental attitude, they will be proof against the brooding mystery, the soliciting and haunting curiosity with which the subject of sex is now too frequently surrounded."

Incidentally, we learn that the propaganda work of the Association includes the preparation of numerous exhibits, conferences for teachers, the publication of leaflets, and supplying correspondents with advice and information.

F. S. WARBURG.

Richards, Dr. F. H., of the William Penn High School, Philadelphia. *Hygiene for Girls*. D. C. Heath and Co., Portsmouth Street, Kingsway, W.C. Price 3s. 6d. net.

THE idea of the author in this text-book is "to cover a one year's instruction in the higher grammar grade or in the first year of girls' high schools." She aims at giving only the amount of anatomy and physiology which is necessary for the teaching of hygienic principles and rules for everyday life. An immense amount of information is compressed into the small space, the arrangement is perfect, paper and type of the best, there is a sufficient index and a profusion of diagrams. Of these last there are some, designed to illustrate hygienic detail, which might spoil the book for English girls by a certain grotesqueness and strained character. In teaching hygiene it seems better to avoid anything that might provoke ridicule or be counted puerile. In the same way, certain expressions so thoroughly American as "the débutante slouch" or "to fletcherise" (to chew thoroughly) would certainly mar the usefulness of the book in an English class. Section VII., on public work, is of application and interest only to American students.

The chapters on "Alcohol" and "Emergencies" are particularly clear, and the author has bravely and commendably introduced some plain information and health rules on the reproductive system.

Perhaps a few less allusions to abnormal conditions in menstruation would make this part more suitable for girls, many of whom are liable to be attracted by pathological details, and be led to fancy themselves invalids. On the subject of woollen underclothing few hygiene teachers in this country would find themselves in accord with Dr. Richards. It reads like putting back the clock to discover statements that "woollen underclothes chill the body" and that "cotton and linen make the best underwear." Neither can one see why woollen clothes need, necessarily, "shrink in the wash" or "harbour moth."

Probably, so far as English schools are concerned, this book will be chiefly useful to teachers as an aid in the preparation of lessons and diagrams. Few would care to put a rather curious medley of facts in the hands of girls heterogeneously. It seems wiser to *speak* of such matters as masturbation on suitable occasions to individuals privately, rather than in class.

The last paragraph on "Girls' friendships" would form an excellent topic for one of the teachers' talks with girls before leaving school which many people earnestly hope will soon become more usual in this country.

CLARE GOSLETT.

More, ADELYNE. *Fecundity versus Civilisation*, with Introduction by ARNOLD BENNETT. A Contribution to the Study of Over-population. George Allen; Unwin, Ltd.; 1916; pp. 52. Price 6d.

THIS pamphlet is written to support two theses—that over-population is the almost universal cause of war, and that a rigid restriction of births will benefit the position of women in modern society. Evidence is brought forward to show that some modern wars have been brought about by the necessity of finding new swarming grounds for excessive populations, but a like origin cannot be suggested for wars in sparsely popu-